

OLD COMMONWEALTH.

HARRISONBURG, VA.

THURSDAY MORNING, JANUARY 11, 1883.

J. K. SMITH, EDITOR AND PUBLISHER.

Entered at the Post-Office, Harrisonburg, as second-class mail matter.

TERMS:—\$1.50 a year; \$1.00 for eight months; 75 cents for six months; 50 cents for four months; 25 cents for two months. Advertisements in all cases.

ADVERTISING:—1 inch one time \$1.00; each continuation 50 cents. Yearly: 1 inch \$10; six months, \$6.00; three months, \$4.00. Above three inches, regular rates. Large advertisements are subject to contract. Local business notices five cents a line each insertion. Address: The Old Commonwealth, Harrisonburg, Va.

When you see a X mark on your paper it is notice that your subscription has expired. Renew at once. No paper sent until you renew and pay.

LOCAL AFFAIRS.

GOLDEN DAYS.—Every one who has boys—or girls either, for that matter—should subscribe for Golden Days, the best weekly for boys and girls in the world. You will not find in Golden Days the mushy trash in such publications generally, but stories and sketches that will instruct and amuse, and which are of a high moral tone, teaching the boys to be manly youths and honorable men, and the girls to become women of a noble type. It is finely illustrated, and its Sunday School lessons, edited by Dr. Kiddier, will afford pupils reading, full of instruction to the head of the family and the whole household. It is a valuable publication for the young, and should be taken into every household where there are boys and girls. \$3 a year. James Elverson, Philadelphia, Pa. Call at this office and see it.

A GERMAN BAPTIST COLLEGE AT BRIDGEWATER.—The Messrs. Sanger, Miller, and others interested in the Tunker school at Bridgewater, held a meeting last Saturday and decided to locate a college there, to be built by donations from friends of the enterprise. A brick building, to cost six thousand dollars, is to be erected on a ten acre lot, near the Tunker church, and to be completed and ready for occupancy by next fall.

Nothing speaks better for the growth of any people than the establishment of healthy institutions of learning. Success to our friends in their new line of work.

THE SOUTHERN PLANTER. Richmond, although always full of good matter for our farmer friends, is especially good for January, and Col. Knight, the editor, has made a good start for 1883. This old and well known Southern Agricultural monthly should be well sustained, for it merits it, yet we are sorry to say that a great deal of poor farming in the South is due to the fact that farmers do not support journals devoted to their interests as the farmers of the North and West do. When a change comes in this regard there will be better farming done. Any one wishing to subscribe can see a copy at this office.

The pressure upon our columns last issue prevented us from noticing the fact that our young friend, C. H. Berlin, had received the prize of \$80 from the Innesfall Greenhouses, of Springfield, Ill., for the largest watermelon raised from seed from that establishment. The watermelons he raised from the seed were not only the largest but were of delicious flavor. Mr. Berlin had forgotten all about the prize offered and the watermelons, when he was surprised about ten days since by receiving a check for \$80 in payment of the prize from the manager, Mr. Chas. A. Reese, of the Innesfall Greenhouses.

NATIONAL FARM AND FIRE INSURANCE. (lately the Southern Farm and Fire Insurance), begins the new year in an enlarged and much improved form. We are glad to note the improvement made in this valuable journal, but it is characteristic of the energy and enterprise of Messrs. Wedderburn, who know all about getting up a good paper. Send for specimen copy, farmer friends, addressing your postal to Farm and Fire Insurance, No. 2 Camden street, Baltimore, Md., or send one dollar to pay for it for one year. It is an agricultural and family paper.

THE MUSICAL MILLION. For January, is on our table. It is a capital number. This is one of the cheapest publications to be found anywhere, and it is of high moral tone. Its price, 50 cents a year, is so low as to enable even the poorest person in the land to have the benefit of it. It contains sixteen pages, 7x10 inches in size. Ruebush, Kieffer & Co., Dayton, Rockingham county, Va.

Patrick Murphy, Jr., (son of our good old Irish friend, Patrick Murphy, who resides near Montevideo,) has returned home from a few months residence in West Virginia much broken in health. Young Mr. Murphy's system seems filled with miasmatic poison, but we hope he may recover from its effects, although it will doubtless require some time.

The Farmers' Bank of Bridgewater, on New Year's day, moved into a new and commodious banking-house. The house is a handsome brick structure, 42x60 feet, having on the first floor the bank and a large furniture store-room, occupied by T. P. Humphreys. The Farmers' Bank is a permanent institution and is growing yearly.

The Baltimore Sun will please accept thanks for a copy of "The Sun Almanac" for 1883. This is a very valuable publication, containing a large amount of statistical and other information in a condensed form, to be found nowhere else. As an entertaining and wide awake newspaper the Sun leads in the South.

Mr. T. E. Mace has become sole owner of the Strasburg News. Mr. Mace was formerly of Hagerstown, Md. The paper is a neat and lively paper, and the Strasburg people should see to it that it is properly sustained.

FOR SALE.—A good second-hand Piano, cheap. Just the instrument for beginners. Easy action; three string; square, sweet tone. Apply at once at—Times Office.

BREVITIES.

"Little leaks sink big ships."

"Ranger" write again—and frequently.

Tuesday's snow lasted pretty much all day.

A Minstrel troupe we hear is coming up the Valley.

Arch. says I'm alone, yet not alone. She's gone.

Selden moves that jokes be suspended for this year.

As an "ugly" day Tuesday was the "boss" so far.

Butter and eggs have dropped a few cents since Christmas.

All are prophesying a prosperous year. Hope it may turn out so.

The Tunker school at Bridgewater has about 40 pupils in attendance.

The Winter term of the Shenandoah Seminary began on last Tuesday.

Watered Irish poplins are again in style, and so is watered Irish whiskey.

The new policeman had better put on his uniform and a little more style.

Anthony Hockman, sen., must cut off the shrubbery hanging over his fence.

Our last paper was dated outside January 4, 1883. It should have been 1882.

Some of the boys have had a real good time since the new resolutions went into effect.

The Rockingham Bank declared a semi-annual dividend of three per cent. up to January 1.

Can't there be a celebration of the 23d of February here this year? Who will inaugurate such a movement?

Harrisonburg is on its good behavior just now. The resolutions are holding out better than anticipated, possibly.

Is there any connection, natural or otherwise, between fairs and suppers and chicken? A question for debate.

The prospect of the improvement to the Masonic hall is a little "off" just at present. It is the old trouble of defective titles.

Bridgewater has a new postoffice building. It came none too soon, but she is none the less proud of it, we are sure.

Remember the subscription price of this paper is only \$1.50 a year. Keep that in mind when you come to town on Monday next.

—Santa Claus has come and gone; He lingered but a minute; The editors sock was wide and long— But he found but little in it.

We hope that all persons who have received our prospectus circulars will post them up or hand them round among the people.

D. H. Landes, agent, is kept pretty busy by the rapid sales he is making of the New Home Sewing Machine. It is undoubtedly a good machine.

The man who sits down on the pavement so hard that his gum shoes fly over the telegraph wire, generally forgets to remark, "I want to be an angel."

Chickens are three dollars a dozen, with feathers on, and twenty-seven cents a dozen with shells on. This accounts for high price, and scarcity of feather beds.

A fellow had the impudence to ask us to loan him \$100 the other day. He is in danger of softening of the brain, if, indeed, the malady has not already set in.

Mumps are on the rampage in this part of the moral hemisphere. They are regular 14th amendment mumps, without respect to sex, age, color or previous condition.

A young lady was heard to say on the street last week, that a certain young man, "had the audacity of Satan," but said she didn't mean to say he was as bold as the d—.

When a merchant is too poor to advertise, he is too poor to buy goods at a bargain, so that he can compete with his enterprising neighbor. In most cases however, it is "meanness."

We request our friends throughout the county to send us the news of their localities. Not long communications but short, plain statements of the happenings, marriages, deaths, accidents or other events.

The excursion to Washington advertised for Monday last, from this place to Washington, was right smart of a fizzle. But a few persons went from here. Whether the "twenty" caught on or not before the train got to Harper's Ferry we have not learned.

Our old batchelor friend, "Squire Sibert," had better look out. The ladies are closing in all around him. He keeps an eye on the handsome millinery window on the Main street side, and there is no telling what tender emotions may be stirred up by looking at the lovely handiwork of the ladies.

Preserve your local papers. It may be one of the greatest pleasures of your old age to look back into the files of your local paper. Your children and your children's children will examine them with pleasure; not so much for fresh news, however, as to see how things were done in the "good old times."

Be sure to see if you have an X mark on your paper. If so, renew your subscription before the next issue or you will not receive this paper until you do. Let all come up on Monday next. If you cannot come in person send your name and money by some one of your neighbors who is coming.

"Apples are so scarce that the grocery men keep even the rotten ones, and the citizen is comparatively safe. Next to a good ripe snowball there's nothing in the world so available to pluck a man under the ear as a mortified apple."—Ed. And we would remark that "mortified" apples are about 20 cents a peck in this market. Of real good apples very few are to be had.

We want every farmer, especially stock-breeders, who may be in town on Monday next, to call at the COMMONWEALTH office and see the T. L. Miller Co.'s prize herd of Hereford cattle, of Beecher, Illinois. They are beauties.

PERSONAL.

Mrs. John Paul is spending some time in Washington city.

Miss Ida Funkhouser is teaching a school near Churchville, Va.

Mr. James Kavanaugh slipped on the ice and broke one of his ribs last Saturday.

G. W. Watts, of Sussex county, has become a pupil in Shenandoah Seminary.

Mr. Jacobs, of North Kansas, is visiting his brother, John W. Jacobs, of Bridgewater.

We regret to learn that our friend A. C. Rohr is confined to his bed, with pneumonia.

Mrs. Bettie Paul, spent last week with her daughter, Mrs. William Burkner, near Mt. Clinton.

J. W. F. Allemon, who has been sick recently, is convalescing and will soon be himself again.

Dr. R. S. Switzer will be absent from his office from the sixteenth until the twenty-third of this month.

John J. Burner, murdered last week in Staunton, furnished and set up the machinery of the Dayton Organ Factory.

Mr. Jacob B. Stinespring, has been called by his brother's illness, from his home in Indiana, to his parents' home in Dayton.

The Bridgewater public school is taught this year by Mr. Rinker, of Loudoun county, and Miss Gertie Jenkins of Bridge water.

George W. Hedrick has erected a new carriage shop in Dayton. The Hedrick Bros. are turning out quite a number of buggies and wagons.

Geo. A. Myers, has closed his business connection with the Baltimore house with which he was lately in business, and has returned to this place. He has nearly recovered from several weeks severe sickness.

Thomas P. Humphreys, the Bridgewater furniture man, expects to take a trip through Southern Virginia and North Carolina, about the 15th of the present month in the interest of his extensive trade. He has a large stock of excellent furniture on hand.

The Weather.

Thursday, 4—Cloudy. Snow. Sleet at night.

Friday, 5—Moderate temperature, damp and cloudy. Crust on the snow from last night's sleet, but both snow and sleet gave way before the warm rays of the sun; line came out before mid-day.

Saturday, 6—Damp, cloudy, drizzling cold and disagreeable; a very ugly winter day.

Sunday, 7—Temperature mild, sky cloudy; early part of the day the sun struggled feebly to shine through the clouds, and before noon it broke through and shone out warm. In the early morning the ground was iced over from the frozen rain of last night, making locomotion difficult and hazardous. The warmth of the day broke the ice king's grip and set the small streams whirling. The water in roads and gutters made merry music.

Monday, 8—An ugly raw day.

Tuesday, 9—Cold, wind from the North, followed by snow.

Wednesday, 10—The biggest snow of the season greeted us this morning. Snow fell all day yesterday and most of last night. The wind was from the East and consequently, we learn, the snow is badly drifted in many places. For a day or two we may expect derangement in the mails. This morning the sun shone out bright, but before 10 o'clock the whole sky was overcast with a leaden hue. At this moment we are having real winter.

Religious Notes.

Mendi Mission, on the West coast of Africa, South of Shengay Mission, has been transferred for five years, by the American Missionary Board, to the United Brethren Missionary Board. With this is transferred for the same term of years, over \$7,000 to purchase a steamer for the use of the mission, and also the income of the Avery fund, which is \$5,000 a year. At the end of five years, unless the American Board should see further light, the mission, with all its property, is to be transferred to the United Brethren Board; but the Avery fund is then to return to the American Board to be used for missions in Africa.

The meeting at Mt. Horeb, under Rev. J. E. Hott, still continues with considerable interest.

The Campbellites, or Disciples, have commenced the foundation of a new church at Dayton. Messrs. Hiram K. Devier and Joseph W. Rhodes are the principal movers in the enterprise.

The Strasburg News is very severe upon some "roughs" and drunken young men and boys, also some girls who participated in the shameful excesses, of disturbing the Sunday school exercises, held in the M. E. Church South at Strasburg on Christmas night, to such an extent as to cause the discontinuance of the effort to award the S. S. children the presents from the Christmas tree. After characterizing the conduct of these disturbers of the congregation in the House of God in very severe and caustic language, the editor winds up as follows:—"And we say, in conclusion, if this be read by any who were participants in the disgraceful scene, and they do not like the tenor of it, they can 'step up to the Captain's office and settle,' as we can always be found at our place of business, and are responsible for what we write."

"I move," said a delegate in a Virginia convention, "that our chairman take a dose of Dr. Bull's Cough Syrup, he is so hoarse that I cannot understand him." That gentleman had no doubt tried this wonderful medicine.

Next Monday will be County Court day and we hope to see all of our old friends and all of their neighbors and their friends. We want to enroll a hundred names on our subscription book on that day. Be on hand early.

Thanks to Hon. John Paul for Congressional Record.

A Terrible Tragedy.

Our community was shocked on last Wednesday morning to learn that on the previous night J. J. Burner, a native of Woodstock, had been shot in a house on Greenville Avenue, near the gas house by Geo. W. Amis, of Harrisonburg, a baggage-master on the Valley Branch of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad.

The shooting occurred in the room of Fannie Lewis, a courtesan, about whom the difficulty arose. It seems that Burner was sitting in her room reading when Amis arrived and demanded admittance, and he then either broke open the door or it was opened by Fannie Lewis. A scuffle then occurred between Amis and Burner, during which Burner was shot in the right side of the abdomen. He then left the house, and accompanied by Lelia Lester, the keeper of the house, made his way to the Virginia Hotel where he was stopping.

Amis remained a few minutes after Burner had left, then went to his room in the Burns Building on Augusta street, where he was shortly afterwards arrested by Chief of Police J. H. Waters.

Burner was attended by Drs. Henkel but from the character of the wound it was impossible to pronounce it mortal and hence, though Commonwealth's At-Echols was hourly present during Wednesday, when internal hemorrhages took place at 3 o'clock (Burner died before his dying declaration could be taken).

Coroner Geo. Harlan had the following jury of inquest impaneled: F. M. Young, R. W. Burke, H. L. Powell, J. A. Templeton, W. H. Goode, and John B. Blackley, who after taking testimony, rendered a verdict that the deceased came to his death from a pistol shot wound at the hands of George Amis.

On Friday a special Grand Jury of the Hustings Court was summoned, which found an indictment against Amis for the murder of Burner.

On the Valley train Wednesday evening at 5 o'clock, some two hours after her husband's death, the wife of Mr. Burner arrived with her baby, accompanied by L. F. Burner, a brother of her husband, D. F. Burner, a cousin, Dr. J. L. Campbell, the family physician, and J. W. Martin, a connection of the family. She did not see her husband's remains. Mr. Burner was insured for \$3,000 in the Valley Mutual of Staunton.—Staunton Spectator January, 9th.

DEATH OF JUDGE BIRD.—Hon. Mark Bird, Judge of the Circuit Court of this district, died at his residence, in this place, yesterday about 1 o'clock, P. M. aged 73 years.

In the death of Judge Bird, the town has lost one of its best citizens and the State, an upright, just Judge. He commanded the respect of all, and in his place about fifty years ago. For a number of years, he was associated with the late Philip Williams of Winchester. He held the position of Commonwealth's Attorney, of this county, until the period of reconstruction. His term as Judge of the Circuit Court began about seven years ago and would have expired the first of next January. He held his last Court at Harrisonburg, late in the fall, and expected to preside at the Court held in Shenandoah in December, but when the time arrived he was unable to undergo the labor required and his place was filled by Judge Turner, of Front Royal. He continued to fail gradually, at no time suffering much pain. Last week his condition was regarded as very critical and his children were summoned home. Fortunately they all reached home in time to converse with him and to be present with him, as he approached the close of life.

While Judge Bird was faithful, attentive and always polite in the discharge of his public duties, the more enabling traits of his character shone brightest in the home and social circles. He was a kind and affectionate husband and father, a good neighbor, and a true and steadfast friend. He was popular because, in addition to his uniformly polite and courteous treatment of those with whom he came in contact, he deserved the confidence and esteem of all. His memory will long be cherished not only by those to whom he was bound by ties of relationship, but by the entire community in which he was so long and so favorable known.—Shenandoah Herald, 3d.

Why There was an Excitement.

On Tuesday, Dec. 19 (always Tuesday), the 151st Grand drawing of The Louisiana State Lottery, under the sole management of Gen'l G. T. Beauregard of La., and Jubal A. Early of Va., took place. Here are some of the results of the scattering of the \$523,500: Ticket No. 84,516 drew the capital prize of \$100,000, and was sold in ten parts at one dollar each. Among some of the holders were Miss Kingsley, a resident with Charles T. Yerkes, Esq., former President of the Kenning National Bank, No. 1733 Master st., Philadelphia; Mr. John T. Garvin, a car driver on Metropolitan Horse Railway at Roxbury District Station, Boston, Mass.—and here may be well to notice a slight coincidence—that the same man in Nov. '81 (only a year ago), drew 15,000; Thos. F. Bell, of No. 826 East Fifth st., South Boston, Mass.; Harper S. Fries, 137 Court st., Cincinnati, Ohio. Ticket No. 94,135, held in N. O., drew the second capital prize of \$50,000. Ticket No. 31,401 drew the third capital prize, \$20,000—sold in fractions also—among others two-tenths (costing two dollars) gave Mrs. Harriet Woodman, of Vesper P. O. Onondaga Co., N. Y., a Christmas present of \$4,000; and similar amounts for like investments were paid to parties (who do not wish their good deeds known) in Ft. Wayne, Ind., and San Francisco, Cal. Tickets No. 13,249 sold to residents in Grenada, Mass., and L. Shelton, (through the Kentucky National Bank), No. 24,198 in N. O., and Geo. C. D. Ayres, Danville, Va.—each drew \$10,000. Nos. 14,643 sold in Chicago and New York; 45,357 in N. O. and St. Louis; 69,898 in Chicago, and Washington, D. C.; 80,894 sold in St. Louis—each drew \$5,000. The next drawing occurs February 18th.

FIREMEN'S FAIR.—On Wednesday night

January 3d the Rescue Fire Company met at the Court House and determined to hold a fair for the benefit of the Company at an early day. Committees were appointed to carry out the determination of the meeting. The Committee of Arrangements met, consisting of fourteen members, at Council Chamber on Friday night, 3d, and divided themselves into sub-committees. The soliciting committee has gone to work earnestly; and we are pleased to hear of meeting with most gratifying success.

A little effort upon the part of each one of our citizens will result in great good in promoting the efficiency of this self-sacrificing body of citizen firemen. Do they not deserve it? Who will say to the contrary?

Let us all then unite and give the boys a "boost" in their effort to suitably uniform and equip themselves. All ye men, do your duty, and we will guarantee that the ladies will do their part. This work should be the pleasure of every citizen, for every one is interested in making our fire department as effective as possible. Then let everybody lend a helping hand and make their Fair, which will take place soon, an artistic, financial and complete success. Firemen do their work gratuitously, and not unfrequently at heavy cost to themselves in loss of time, clothing, health, etc. A proper appreciation shown then by our citizens will stimulate the Rescue Company to greater efficiency and this is the duty of every citizen to speed, with every means at command. Let all unite in the work. No danger of over-doing it.

FREE LECTURE.—Dr. Wilbur who is to lecture here Friday, Saturday and Monday evenings, on Anatomy, etc., has been lecturing in Staunton, where the people speak in the highest terms of him.

The Doctor is a graduate of the University of N. Y., where he received the "Mott" gold medal, and has seven diplomas which he received at Colleges where he has graduated. He will stay at the Revere House, of which notice is given in another column, for fifteen days. Below is a clipping from the Staunton Spectator:

Dr. Wilbur's lectures last week were well attended throughout the course, and Thursday evening many were unable to obtain standing room. The Doctor spoke in a popular manner on Anatomy, Laws of Health, etc., and none who heard him could doubt but what he thoroughly understands his business. He took a manikin apart, explaining all the different organs as they are in life, and by means of his numerous models and paintings showed how they looked when attacked with disease in its different stages.

The Doctor is meeting with remarkable success since his advent among us, having 302 patients under treatment, and has made a number of cures, such as straightening J. B. McComb's eyes and relieving Frank Rohr of a tape worm 48 feet long and many others too numerous to mention.

As to job printing, our motto is still "excelsior." We work cheap for you. Bring your orders to the COMMONWEALTH if you want good work at bottom prices. Since the 1st of January we have been crowded with work, for which we return thanks, and take occasion to say that before the month is out we shall introduce a number of new styles of material. We shall not be behind if you give us the work to do. Several friends have voluntarily come forward and kindly tendered us help when we need it, and we contemplate some improvements ere long that will help us to execute orders more speedily than ever before. Come on with your work. Estimates furnished upon application by letter or otherwise.

Baltimore Markets, Jan. 8.

COFFEES.—Roasted—Rio, pound papers, 104 1/2; Ligas and Maricao, 154 1/2; Java, 214 1/2; Green—Rio, ordinary, 64c; fair, 74c; good, 84c; prime, 84c.

Flour.—Western winter pat. process family, \$5.00; Howard street family, \$4.75; @ \$5.05. Some Western as high as \$5.25.

Grain.—Common to fair, 85c @ \$1.02; good to choice Southern \$1.08 to 1.09 for Fultz; \$1.08 to 1.10 for long-berry; \$1.11 for mixed. No. 1 Maryland red sold for \$1.11. Western, \$1.08 to the ruling figures. Southern white corn sold at 60 1/2 @ 62 1/2. Oats—bright Western, 48c. best, down to 37c. Rye 60 @ 62c.

Provisions.—Bulk shoulders 8c; clear rib sides, 10c. Bacon—Shoulders 9 1/2c; clear rib sides 11 1/2c; hams 13 1/2 @ 14 1/2c. Refined lard, in tins, 11 1/2c.

Cloves.—\$20 @ 11c per lb for fair to good; 11 1/2 @ 12c. per lb for prime to choice.

A telegraph office has been established in the Wallace House. The wire connects at B. & O. Depot. This connection will prove to be a valuable improvement, enabling persons to use the B. & O. telegraph line without going to the office at the depot.

The King of Denmark is truly a paternal monarch. Finding that during the recent severe weather the royal foot guards were suffering greatly from colds and coughs, this good old gentleman ordered a supply of Dr. Bull's Cough Syrup for them and now the sentries are happy.

If not necessary to remain longer, we would respectfully ask the chief of police if the bridge across the sidewalk on East Market street could not be removed without discommoding anybody?

M. E. CHURCH SOUTH.—Young Men's Prayer and Class Meeting every Friday at 7:00 p. m. The young men of the church and any others who may desire to become members, are cordially invited to attend.

One of the quickest means of realizing a fortune, if you are "lucky," is to draw a prize in the Louisiana State Lottery. See the list of winners, printed elsewhere, during 1882.

The day was almost spring-like on Sunday, and the number of persons on the promenade was greater than for sometime past.

One negro boy bit another negro boy's ear off at a ball last week at North end of town.

The following only reached us on Thursday evening last, too late for last issue.

MILL BASK, Va., Jan. 2, 1883.

A few items from this section may be of interest to your readers. I think this little corner of the county, as fully alive as any place of like extent in the State. The business done at Elkton Station, S. V. R. R. is simply immense. There has been about 1,000,000 feet of lumber, 100 carloads or 1,000 cords of tanbark and thousands of R. R. ties, wagon spokes, etc., shipped from there this season. There has also been several hundred cords of bark hauled by Cover & Son, for their extensive tannery. The present indications are, that the lumber business will be more active the coming season than ever before.

The search for mineral lands, so prevalent some time ago, has quieted down. There was, however, a small tract near Greenwood, sold by Wm. E. Gaines, Esq., to Capt. J. G. H. Miller quite recently.

There was considerable strife in the vicinity of East Point during the holidays, caused by the arrests of a number of colored men for larceny. The farmers around where these arrests were made have lost quite a number of hogs and sheep, and some cattle.

Mr. Warfield Bear, who owns the Maj. Kirtley farm, may be considered the "boss" farmer in this section. He is underdrain extensively. If he who causes two spears of grass to grow where there used to be a benefactor of mankind, surely Mr. B. deserves the gratitude of many.

The great political commotion has lulled into comparative rest, save an occasional squib.

BEWARE OF FRAUDS.—The original and only genuine, "Rough on Rats" is manufactured by and has the name of Ephraim S. Wells, Jersey City, N. J., on each box. He employs no Traveling Agents, nor Peddlers.

FROM VALLEY EXCHANGES.

Frank Turner and a colored man named Hilton, got into a difficulty at Milnes, on Saturday before Christmas, during which Hilton struck Mr. Turner with a stone, fracturing his skull; it is thought.

The announcement of the sudden death of Mr. James H. Walter, at his residence, near Bentonville, Warren county, Va., on Friday night, December 23d ult., cast a gloom over our town, of which he was for many years an honored citizen.

Messrs. T. B. Schwartz, W. T. Carruthers, John H. Fling and Guthrie Hitt left Luray last Monday morning for Dallas City, in the "Lone Star" State.

A young man named Thomas Wilson, who lives in the neighborhood of New Port, in this county, was so unfortunate as to break his leg on Friday before Christmas. He was riding a horse, which stumbled and fell, and in the fall Mr. W.'s leg was caught under the horse's body, breaking it, as above stated.

The dwelling-house at Leekeville, this county, owned by the heirs of the late David Strickler, and occupied by the Messrs. Gerty and Alice Strickler, was destroyed by fire Tuesday, December 12. Some of their housekeeping property was lost, though most of it was saved. The loss is estimated at three or four hundred dollars.

Parker, a half grown colored boy, was arrested and jailed last week, charged with stealing watches and other articles, amounting altogether to more than fifty dollars, from the store of Harrison & Co., in this place. He in some way contrived to make a hole in a show case where the watches were kept, through which on several occasions he had abstracted them. The number of watches thus taken so far as discovered, is four. He had also stolen hats, pants, &c. The case will doubtless be disposed of at the next term of the Court.

Mr. P. F. Ellicott, a practical miner of large and varied experience, has since his residence in Luray, devoted all his time to exploring and prospecting for ores, and we are glad to state that his labors now promise to be rewarded. He has been for some time at work on the lands of the Oliver heirs, on the Blue Ridge, and has found rich indications of silver, copper and gold. The "trap rock," he says, is the richest he ever saw, the analysis showing a better yield of metal. The ore on Mr. Hite's farm, near town, discovered by him, which he had analyzed, shows a yield of 49 1/2 per cent.

Staunton Visitor, Jan. 6.

Thirteen years, ten months and four days is the age of Miss Mary Belle Bartley, of Variety Springs, for whose marriage with H. Puckett, of Nelson county, Clerk Burnett this week issued a license.

